

ARTICLE 31

OPERATION OF STATE MOTOR VEHICLES

The Employer and the Union agree that motor vehicle safety and proper operation of all State vehicles and equipment are of prime importance to the State and its employees.

Any endorsement required on a personal operator's license which is required to operate a State motor vehicle or other motorized equipment will be paid for by the Employer. Any vehicle or other motorized equipment having faulty operator and/or passenger safety restraints or devices which are required by law will not be put into service except in an emergency situation. All employees will be expected to use such safety restraints.

Employees will be expected to operate State motor vehicles and other motorized equipment in accordance with applicable laws and in a safe manner. Employees who have been assigned vehicles or whose assigned job duties include vehicle maintenance shall maintain such vehicles in accordance with Department of Management and Budget policy and procedures. All other employees who operate state owned vehicles shall respond appropriately to indications of problems related to the operation of the vehicle.

Employees using State owned vehicles who, due to the nature of their employment may be required to become involved in high speed or pursuit driving, shall be given comprehensive training in precision driving techniques similar to that given to State Police. All employees required to take this training shall do so no less than once every five (5) years. See Letter of Understanding.